

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed April 17, 2007 in the above-identified application.

Claim 20 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 1-6, 13-19 and 21-26 are the claims currently pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 3-4, 13-19, 21 and 22 are amended to clarify features recited thereby.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claims for foreign priority and the receipt of the priority document. Further, applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging review and consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 28, 2004.

Rejection of Claims 13-19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 13-19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 on the ground that they are directed to non-statutory subject matter. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 13 is directed to a method and appears to have been inadvertently included in the rejection of claims 14-19 and 21. No amendment is required.

Applicant respectfully submits that, in view of recent United States Supreme Court and Federal Circuit precedent, claims 14-19 and 21 are directed to statutory subject matter and are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 101. No amendment is required as a matter of applicable law or regulation.

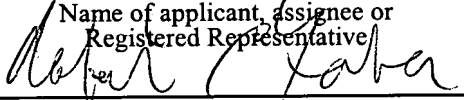
However, to expedite prosecution of the present application and to conserve examination resources, the claims are amended.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 26, 2007:

Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative



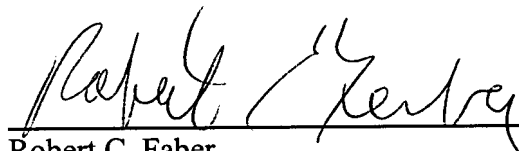
Signature

June 26, 2007

Date of Signature

RCF:GB:ns

Respectfully submitted,



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